

♦The Lamoine Quarterly♦

Volume 24 Issue 1

Published Quarterly by the Lamoine Town Office

July 2018



Marlboro Beach neighbor Jim Norris addresses the crowd that came to celebrate the purchase from his family in late June.

Marlboro Beach Purchase Celebrated

(Lamoine) - For six months now, the Town of Lamoine has owned all of Marlboro Beach. Thanks to efforts of many, including the Frenchman Bay Conservancy, the Norris Family, and resident (and tax assessor) Terry Towne, the town closed on the deal in December 2017. Being a relatively bleak time of year, certainly not suitable for an outdoor celebration of the purchase, organizers opted to hold out for a day that would more likely bring good weather.

Iris Simon organized the day on June 23rd. Simon is with the Frenchman Bay Conservancy which did much of the leg work getting chairs, small tents, and the right organizations to the beach for the celebration.

Towne addressed the crowd, estimated at about 150-people about the geology of the beach, created tens of thousands of years ago when glaciers melted into what became Frenchman Bay. The Conservancy, which raised about \$35,000 to combine with \$10,000 from the Town of Lamoine to fund the purchase reflected on the importance a publicly

owned land with shorefront access.

Jim Norris, who, along with his brothers, sold the property to the town, also told the attendees about how important it was to his family to keep the beach open to the public for both commercial fishing and recreational use. He said he hopes to see the town, over time, make some improvements to the area to accommodate users. Mr. Norris then gave a quick demonstration of clam digging to interested onlookers.

A lot of town volunteers assisted with the event. The Conservation Commission, Parks Commission, and even the Board of Selectmen were among the attendees. Fire Department members also helped with set up and parking control.

Local businesses donated ice cream and root beer and volunteers made up root beer floats. The Recreation Committee offered games. The Fletcher's Landing Philharmonic Orchestra entertained the gathering with a variety of Dixieland numbers. Most importantly, heavy rains held off until after the event was over. Those in attendance said it was great fun.

Assessors Set Property Tax Rate At 11.2

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's property owners will see their bills rise 4.67% when they receive them in mid-July. The town's Board of Assessors set the mill rate at \$11.20. That's up from \$10.70 from the 2017 rate. On a typical home assessed at \$200,000, the tax increase would be \$100.00. That's sure a lot of numbers for one paragraph.

The reasons behind the tax increase are pretty simple—increased property tax requirements from all three components of the budget; the municipality (up \$32,200), the school department (up \$151,100) and county (up \$5,300) - all figures are rounded. While the tax need was up, the

amount expended by the components was not up all that much. Revenues used to offset property taxes were not utilized to the extent that they were in the 2017/18 fiscal year. Most notably, the town used \$117,000 less from the road fund to offset paving costs for the 18/19 fiscal year. The school department also utilized less fund balance to offset some of the budget increased.

The expenditure budget total is actually down by \$70,000, but the non-property tax revenue offset was down by \$260,000.

Tax bills should be mailed out the week of July 16th.

Appeals Board Overturns Gravel Pit Expansion Denial

(Lamoine) - Harold MacQuinn, Inc. now has town permission to expand an existing gravel mining operation from roughly 33 acres to approximately 110-acres, pending any further appeals following action by the town's Board of Appeals. The Appeals Board found in favor of MacQuinn, contrary to a denial of both Site Plan Review and Gravel Permit applications from the town's Planning Board.

The appeals process started in February and covered more than a half dozen meetings, ending in June. The Planning Board had turned down both permits based on what they determined was an adverse impact on ground water underneath the huge gravel deposit, and adverse impacts on properties near the proposed pit area.

The Town ended up employing two attorneys during the appeals process. Dan Pileggi represented the Planning Board during the Appeal, presenting the materials that came before the Planning Board during its decision making process. Diane O'Connell represented the Board of Appeals, guiding that board through the complex decision making process.

The Appeals Board recognized three parties of interest; the citizens' group Friends of Lamoine, which was also represented by an attorney; landowner the Tweedie Trust, and the Cold Spring Water Company, which abuts the area in question and represented by treasurer John Holt, who serves as Planning Board Chairman. In this matter, Holt recused himself from the Planning Board's decision making process. A fourth attorney, Ed Bearor, represented the MacQuinn corporation.

Testimony from a hydro-geologist showed that the excavation area would not diminish the groundwater area that supplies the Cold Spring Water Company which serves several dozen homes, the Lamoine Consolidated School and the fire station in the center of town. That finding was corroborated by an independent geologist approved by all parties and the Planning Board. The Friends of Lamoine countered with testimony from University of Maine Professor Emeritus Dr. Harold Borns.

The Appeals Board findings concluded that the proposed expansion would not increase the amount of excavation and truck activity that currently exists. MacQuinn has agreed to keep operations set back 100-feet from property lines.

In the end, the Board of Appeals ruled that all the criteria for approving a gravel permit had been met during the "de novo" hearing, and that several provisions of the Site Plan Review ordinance should not have been applied by the Planning Board. The Planning Board, on July 9, 2018 issued the written findings approving both permits.

Code Enforcement Increases On-Duty Time

(Lamoine) - Code Enforcement Officer Rebecca Albright says she loves working in Lamoine, and has started doing more of it, by necessity. Albright recently left her similar post in Gouldsboro, and became available to put in more time for Lamoine.

The demand on the Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector has grown significantly just in the past year. In June alone, Albright issued five permits for new homes. Besides reviewing the submitted paper work for compliance with local and state requirements, the Code Enforcement Officer and Plumbing Inspector must visit the work site and make several inspections during the construction project. After the permits are issued, Albright enters the basic information into the town's computer system, files the paperwork in a binder and a copy in each pertinent folder for the property. The work for a construction permit has become fairly complex over time, and the volume of permits has meant more needed office time.

In addition to the permitting work, Albright has received several alleged violation complaints from other town officials. Those require even more time than the permit applications as each complaint must be investigated, correspondence generated with the alleged violator, and coming up with a solution for the alleged violation to be corrected.

Another time demand on Albright involves Planning and Appeals Board meetings. The Code Enforcement Officer is a vital team player with the Planning Board, offering advice on pending applications, carrying out inspections, especially on gravel pits. When a denied permit is appealed, the CEO must appear before the Board of Appeals to offer insight into the reasons for appeal or request for a variance.

Albright requested permission to utilize more hours. When she was hired, the Selectmen set up a contract to guarantee payment for a minimum of 8-hours a week, with compensation hourly beyond the 8-hour mark.

Ordinances Amended, More Pending

(Lamoine) - Voters in May approved changes to the Building & Land Use Ordinance (BLUO) and Gravel Ordinance. The BLUO change has to do with road frontage requirements. The amendment will now allow for buildings to be placed 200-feet back from public roads if the road frontage is not 200-feet wide. That potentially opens up a lot more potential residential development in town. The amendment also corrected some minor errors in the land use table.

The Gravel Ordinance change had to do with pit restoration and gives the ability to the Planning Board to deny or revoke a permit if the operator does not conduct restoration activity as outlined in

the Gravel Application.

Meanwhile, the Planning Board has drafted a new Shoreland Zoning Ordinance to conform with state required wording. A draft of that will go to a public hearing on September 17, 2018 for input before a final version is voted upon.

The same process is also planned for the BLUO. The Planning Board has spent hours working on cluster housing ideas, and has drafted language that potentially allow such plans. The current cluster housing language is difficult to comply with, and tends to discourage such development in demand in neighboring municipalities

Faces Change on Appeals Board

(Lamoine) - Two resignations from the Board of Appeals and a sudden interest in the Board's business have some new faces serving. Long time members Cece Ohmart and Connie Bender both stepped down because work schedules prevented them from attending. Filling the regular slots on

the board are long-time alternate member Michael Jordan and Conservation Commission chair Larissa Thomas. School Committee chair Brett Jones and Glen Mary Road resident Karen Hood were named to serve as alternate members on the Appeals Board.



Caretakers of the Memorial

Girl Scouts Lilly Philbrook (left) and Casey Jordan (right) have been very diligent the last few years about keeping the flora at Lamoine Veterans' Memorial in tip top shape. This year they planted a pair of perennials to replace two that did not survive the winter, and also edged, mulched and planted geraniums along the brick walkway.

Appeals Board Denies Variance, Another Withdrawn

(Lamoine) - When Partridge Cove Road resident Dana Young applied for a building permit for a garage, his plans placed the structure 21-feet too close to Route 204. The application called for the garage to be adjacent to Young's home, which is the same distance away from the road, had been built long before the road setback requirement was placed into the building and land use ordinance.

Code Enforcement Officer Rebecca Albright denied the permit because of the proposed setback violation, and Young requested a variance from the town's Board of Appeals.

After reviewing the information, the Appeals Board also denied the application. In its draft findings, the board noted that the land parcel contains 20-acres and there was plenty of room for a conforming garage.

The Board of Appeals also received a variance application from a landowner on Eagle Point Road who was apparently trying to sell a small waterfront parcel contingent on being able to obtain a building permit. A proposed cabin did not meet setback requirement on the lot that was created prior to the town's first ordinances.

Landowners in the subdivision questioned the plans presented with the variance request following the initial Board of Appeals meeting on the matter. The matter is currently pending.

Permits Issued

#	Name	Project
7	True, K.	Residence
8	Merchant, Rob't	Residence
9	Havey, Keith	Expansion
10	Andrews, Holly	Garage
11	Young, Dana	Garage
12	Young, Dana	Porch
13	Workman, Alice	Residence
14	Berger, Alex	Apartment
15	Comolli, Bruce	Shed
16	Warner, Mark	Residence
17	Sanborn, R.	Slab, Barn
18	Nichols, Jenny	Rabbit Hutch
19	Sweeney, M.	Mud Room
20	Onorato, Geo	Expansion
21	Louis, Nancy	Shoreland
22	O'Connor, C.	RV
23	Atkins, Alice	Shed
24	Leavitt, Jas.	Residence
25	Pending	
26	LaBossiere, A.	Garage
27	Richards, John	Residence
28	Warner, Jeffrey	Residence
29	Davis, Allan	Deck, Sunroom
30	Long, Robin	Residence
31	Bouffard, D.	Shed
33	Apel, Raymond	Screen Deck
34	Strauss, Rob't	Residence

Electronic Waste Collection

(Lamoine) - For a third time in 4-years, Lamoine sponsored an electronic waste collection. Electronics End of Brewer set up collection trailers next to the transfer station. The company reports it picked up more than 5-tons of Televisions, batteries, computers and monitors and various other gadgets that people brought for proper disposal.

Electronics Recycling Day, sponsored by the Lamoine Conservation Commission, was a big success. Electronics End of Brewer spent Saturday morning at our transfer station and drove away at noon with a full trailer and half a box truck full of...well, you name it. Thanks to all the generous donors whose contributions will help support our future activities. And thanks to the members of the Conservation Commission who helped accept and load the donated items—especially Mike Jordan who stayed all morning long and lifted all the heaviest TVs! (Larissa Thomas Photo)



Recycling Popularity Creates Challenges

(Lamoine) - Since instituting single sort recycling in April, Lamoine's un-incinerated tonnage has dramatically increased. That has created a lot of challenges for the transfer station operation, and the town's budget.

The program started out with a 30-yard dumpster weekly, and with the increased in the types of materials being recycled, the dumpster filled up quickly. Transfer station manager Chris Meyer had to close the roll-off container early each weekend when it got full, and the recyclable material had to go in the regular trash.

Meanwhile, the bottom fell out of the recycling market when China stopped buying recycled material from the United States. Eco-Maine had to find other buyers, and prices for recycling fell to near nothing, and in some cases, the company

has to pay to get rid of materials such as mixed paper.

The town obtained another recycling roll-off in late June, and now both containers seem to be filling nearly full each week and has to be hauled to Winterport for emptying. That increases transportation costs significantly, and it's likely that recycling costs will exceed the amount budgeted for 2018/19.

Meyer asks that people use one of the large containers for cardboard, and the other for the rest of the materials to try to maximize the container efficiency.

One option could be compaction. Resident Ken Smith, who helped guide the town through its disposal options, has started exploring the options for a compactor to maximum container space use and hopefully drop transportation charges.

Solar Energy Under Exploration

(Lamoine) - Selectmen have started looking at options for solar energy production at town buildings. A representative from Re-Vision Energy of Waldo County gave a presentation in late June to the Board of Selectmen for what's called a power purchase agreement.

Under that plan, a solar array would be constructed on town property, possibly the salt sand shed or at the former landfill. The array would produce enough energy to power the town buildings, and instead of buying electricity from the utility company, the electric bill would be generated by an investor who pays for the solar array installation. The investor would get tax credits for the solar energy while getting a guaranteed payment from the municipality.

Typical plans would offer the purchase of the solar array back to the town after 5-years, and the town would sell the power equal to the amount it uses back into the electric grid.

The Selectmen have referred the potential project to the Conservation Commission, which will also explore a solar array at the elementary school.

Several Maine communities have taken advantage of the tax incentives for private investors for such power purchase agreements.

Transfer Station Safety, Signage Under Study

(Lamoine) - Transfer Station Manager Chris Meyer has posted two stop signs by his office and the swap shop to try to get traffic to slow down after a number of pedestrian near misses by speeding vehicles. So far, no one has been injured this year while attempting to place or retrieve items from the swap shop.

Meyer devised a parking and signage plan for the Board of Selectmen to try to maximize safety. One of the big problems seems to be that pedestrians are parking on the right hand side of the road across from the swap shop and cross the access road to reach their destination while transfer station users are coming into the facility. Parking on that side of the facility will be prohibited in the near future to try to make it safer. Traffic cones and signage will be placed around that area as well as the pad where the recycling containers are located to keep vehicles and pedestrians separated.

Heating Fuel Bid Awarded

(Lamoine) - More towns participated in the annual bid program for heating fuel this year. Lamoine joined Hancock, Sullivan, and now Gouldsboro along with the Hancock and Lamoine School Departments to look for the most favorable price for heating fuel.

Once again, Acadia Fuel came in with the low bid for both #2 oil and propane. The towns and school department will pay \$2.43/gallon for oil and \$ 1.35/gallon for propane. Four companies submitted bids, and the Southwest Harbor based company was 1-cent lower for oil and 7-cents a gallon lower for propane.



*Adopt-A-Highway
Walker Road resident Joan Bragdon took a picture of her cleanup results along her stretch of road. Mrs. Bragdon reports the amount of trash showing up on the road does not seem to be diminishing, despite the constant cleanup.*

Water Tests Show Normal Results

(Lamoine) - A lot of water testing has taken place in Lamoine in the past quarter. The town conducted its annual residential well testing around the former landfill which closed in 1994. Five homes are tested, and the results this year were consistent with past years.

Additionally, the town had several wells drilled adjacent to the landfill tested this year by an engineering firm. The results came back normal, with only a trace amount of the chemical tannin showing up at levels well below the unsafe level.

Finally, Conservation Commission member Kerry Diskin conducted a water test for E-coli at Blunt's Pond around the end of June, and the tests show no presence of the organism, despite heavy pond use during that time of year.

Fire Department Auction Set for August 10

(Lamoine) - The upcoming Lamoine VFD fire department auction could be one of the biggest ever in terms of items offered for sale. The fire department has received so many significant donations that it has rented two storage lockers in town.

The estate of former Ambassador Chester Norris sold earlier this year and his wife, Ulla, donated much of the high quality furniture and décor to the fire department. A Buttermilk Road resident who also plans to move has also given many high quality tools to the auction.

The annual auction will be held on Friday evening, August 10th at the Lamoine Consolidated School. The preview starts at 5PM, and the bidding will begin promptly at 6PM. Bidders are

encouraged to bring trucks and trailers, as many of the furniture items are large. Firefighters will help successful bidders load them onto vehicles.

Lt. Joe Young is in charge of setting up the auction, and volunteer firefighters have hit the road to ask local businesses if they wish to help. For a second year, Deputy Fire Chief & Administrative Assistant to the Board of Selectmen Stu Marckoon will lead the bidding.

Last year's auction raised a record amount for the fire department, exceeding \$10,000 for the first time. There is no admission fee to pick up a bidding card. It's expected the local girl scout troop will be selling snacks at the event. Cash and checks are accepted, but not credit cards.

Ambulance Contract Now Month to Month

(Lamoine) - For nearly 40 years the Town of Lamoine has contracted with County Ambulance to provide emergency ambulance service for its citizens. The town paid \$9.00 per capita a year, a relatively small charge compared to purchasing an ambulance and staffing the service. The contract with County expired on June 30th.

Owner John Partridge is proposing that instead of paying for the service in advance that his company will bill the company monthly. Selectmen have tentatively agreed to take him up on the offer.

County Ambulance is suffering from a significant revenue loss. It's competitor, Capital Ambulance, has taken over transport between Maine Coast Memorial Hospital and Eastern Maine

Medical Center. Both hospitals are owned by the same organization, which also owns Capital. Routine transports are a good source of revenue for ambulance services, and Partridge says County is feeling the pinch. He said he's not offering a long term contract, because he's not sure if he'll be able to honor it, depending on the finances.

Maine EMS which oversees what ambulances serve which communities told the town that it's confident that if County should not be able to continue, there will still be ambulance coverage for Lamoine. Partridge echoed that belief, saying it's likely to be Capital Ambulance. He also said that emergency service to Lamoine will still likely result in a bill to the town, noting that County's rate is among the lowest in Maine.

Another Busy Quarter for Fire Department

(Lamoine) - Lamoine's firefighters had their pagers activated 28-times between April 1 and June 30 this year. That put the department at a pace for another record number of calls for the year, and some of the calls, mostly those out of town, were extremely serious.

The most serious call came in Bar Harbor where a Russell Farm Road home caught fire nearly immediately after a power outage was restored. Lamoine sent two tanker trucks to the scene to shuttle water. Two people perished in the blaze. Ellsworth fire called upon Lamoine's services fairly frequently, with firefighters providing station coverage for the city and surrounding towns during fires at the Otis General Store as well as several other blazes. The Lamoine VFD also responded with two tankers, a pumper, and the brush truck to a wild fire in a gravel pit in North Ellsworth.

In town, grass fires were the most serious threats to property. A man from out of state kindled a trash fire outside his Lamoine Beach Road home in the dry spring, and the wind quickly carried it out of control. Firefighters had it contained fairly quickly, and the Maine Forest Service issued a ticket for burning without a permit. Another wildfire scorched brush alongside Buttermilk Road when a tree

brought down a live power line beside the road. That was quickly extinguished by firefighters using hand tools (and keeping away from the live wire).

Department members responded at least a half dozen times to assist County Ambulance with lifting patients and one possible CPR call. Several alarm activations drew a response, but there was no fire to extinguish.

Drug Bust Brings Animal Control Response

(Lamoine) - A drug bust in late April saw four people arrested and charged with drug trafficking on Francis Drive in Lamoine. The Maine Drug Enforcement Agency charged property owners Michael and Alicia Kane, a man from Connecticut and a woman from Holden with distributing heroin. They seized 51-grams of the drug from the Kane's home.

The MDEA also contacted Animal Control Officer Shannon Byers after the bust to arrange for care for several animals at the Kane's property. Byers sought other arrangements for the chickens and cats at the property while making sure they were fed, watered and properly sheltered.

A judge set bail for the Kanes at \$5,000 each. Maine DEA said they had investigated the young couple for about a month.

Ladder Truck Delivery Date Nears

(Lamoine) - Firefighters have been keeping an eye on the construction of a brand new ladder truck for a fire department in British Columbia, because when that is complete, the town will receive that department's retired ladder truck. It's expected the new truck should arrive in either September or October, depending on the time it takes to drive it across country.

Town meeting approved \$98,000 and change to purchase the truck, combining that with a 10-percent payment from the Lamoine Volunteer Fire Department's privately raised funds.

Money from an annual solicitation letter, the upcoming auction, and items ordered as part of the 2017/18 town budget will fund the equipment that will be placed into service when the new truck arrives. Fire department members will receive extensive training on the new truck.

Winter Harbor to Purchase Tanker 404

(Lamoine) - The Winter Harbor Fire Department has agreed to purchase a 1989 International Tanker truck that Lamoine purchased brand new in 1990. The truck will be delivered to the Hancock County Department in early August, just in time for the community's annual lobster festival. It will make it's Winter Harbor debut in the parade.

The tanker has a lot of history with the department, especially on mutual aid calls. It's most recent significant run came during a fatal fire on the Russell Farm Road in Bar Harbor on April 22nd where it was part of a water shuttle, providing part of an estimated 100,000 gallons of water to the remote scene.

The tanker was the first brand new tanker in the fleet, constructed by Canada based MetalFab, and brokered through K&T Equipment in Island Falls, Maine. That firm has since built two pumpers, another tanker, and the brush truck. It's a standard transmission vehicle, the next to last standard in the fleet. The new ladder truck will take its place in the LVFD fleet.

Fire Insurance Rating Remains at "6/10"

(Lamoine) - The town's fire rating for insurance premiums is still pretty good for a rural department without a full time force and no pressurized fire hydrants. Insurance Services Organization (ISO) informed the town that its fire insurance rating will be a "6" for all areas within 5-miles of the fire station, but for those beyond the 5-mile limit, the rating jumps to a 10. The "10" rating is typical of most rural fire departments.

Initially, ISO had proposed a 9-rating, a significant downgrade from the 6. When town officials pointed out that the fire department years ago had successfully demonstrated that it could flow 250-gallons of water per minute for a sustained amount of time, the rating changed back to the 6/10 designation. Homeowners should check with their insurance carrier to make sure the proper rate is applied to premiums.

Beach Park Generates Treasure, Complaints



Someone with a GM Vehicle is missing a pretty cool key ring, and their vehicle key and fob, left behind at Lamoine Beach

(Lamoine) - Facilities maintenance director Rick Gallegos reports that the town’s three parks, Marlboro Beach, Bloomfield Park at Blunt’s Pond, and Lamoine Beach have mushroomed in popularity this summer. That means he’s clearing out the trash cans far more often this year. And, the lost and found table at the town office has grown with items that people seem to forget they’ve left behind at the parks. The Independence Day

holiday brought a lot of usage—and complaints from neighboring property owners, asking that people respect the private property areas. As you face the ocean at the end of State Route 184, the area to the left is the public park for approximately 1,000 feet. To the right, the beach is private property. At least one neighbor has reported people coming onto their lawn and sitting in their beach chairs. They have erected private property signs.

Then there are fireworks. They are not legal within the confines of Lamoine Beach at any time of the year. State law requires written permission for people to use fireworks on property that is not their own. Neither the Town of Lamoine which operates the park, nor the State of Maine which owns the land, issues such permission. July 4th saw several people using fireworks at Lamoine Beach, which is a popular gathering spot for those who try to see the light show in Bar Harbor without braving the heavy traffic. Neighbors tolerated that evening, but complained that fireworks continued in the days following the 4th.

Biking Courtesy Urged (It’s the Law)

(Lamoine) - A recent e-mail received by the town office expressed dismay at an increasing amount of near misses along the public roads between motorized vehicles and bicycle riders.

State law requires cars to pass bicycles giving them at least 3-feet of separation. Lamoine’s roads, especially the state highways, are pretty narrow with crumbling shoulders, making it tough for bicycles to ride at the extreme right hand edge. If a vehicle is approaching from the other direction, motorists must slow and wait to pass a bicycle until the oncoming motorist passes, making it safe to cross the center line to give the required 3-feet of clearance.

Technology Committee Size Increases, Franchise Agreement Signed

(Lamoine) - The Town of Lamoine’s Technology Committee will increase to a 5-member panel following a request from the committee to increase membership by two members. Michael Risoldi of Quail Lane has agreed to serve on the committee. At least one more member is needed to fill out the committee roster.

Meanwhile, the Board of Selectmen has approved, by a 3-to-2 vote a renewal of the Cable TV Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications (operating as Spectrum). The new agreement eliminates the satellite factor when determining the density requirement for the Cable TV to run cable lines into a neighborhood, but it does increase the number of homes per mile from 15 to 20.

The Tech Committee had lengthy discussions about the franchise fee that Charter/Spectrum pays to the town for permission to run the cable lines in the community. The agreement continues the 3-percent charge to local cable TV bills paid to the local community. That payment has resulted in about \$11,000/year which is dedicated to operating the now two cable TV channels serving the town hall and school.

Speaking of the school, the channel is now up and operating on digital channel 5. The school’s 8th grade promotion ceremony aired live and is playing back on the channel through the summer months. School Committee meetings are also able to air live and be played back.

Connect ME Grant Denied

(Augusta) - The Woodcock Lane section of Lamoine will not see cable TV lines run anytime soon as the State of Maine’s ConnectME program denied the town’s grant application to extend service to the outer reaches of town. The nearly \$100,000 grant request that would benefit about 20-homes lost out to a few applications that saw more homes benefit from the grant for a lower price elsewhere in the state.

While there are no immediate plans to submit another grant proposal to the program, the town’s technology committee has recommended that the Selectmen ask consultant Michael Edgecomb for other potential ideas to wire the “last mile” of town that doesn’t have cable. One of those neighborhoods includes Heather Lane in Hancock, which also includes the Eagle Point subdivision in Lamoine. Both towns have discussed pursuing a joint venture on ideas for extending cable or other high speed Internet service to that area off Mud Creek Road. More talks are expected soon.

Honor Graduates Recognized

(Lamoine) - A small senior class from Lamoine this year graduated from area high schools. The Board of Selectmen recognized a half dozen students who graduated with honors.

From Ellsworth High School, **Brittney Andrews** received the honors cord. MDI High School’s honor graduates from Lamoine included **Casey Willard, Jacqueline Goebel, Makenzie Cowles, Elizabeth Dalton** and **Mackenzie Hanna**.

All the honor grads received certificates of commendation signed by the Board of Selectmen, the Town Clerk and the Administrative Assistant who delivered the documents.

Town Cell Phones Upgraded

(Lamoine) - Five years doesn’t sound all that old, but apparently in the world of cellular phone service, it’s nearly ancient. The town has obtained new phones for a fire truck, the transfer station operator, animal control officer and Administrative Assistant/Local Emergency Management director. The latter two positions carry vastly improved smart phones with unlimited data plans. The fire truck and transfer station phones remain as “flip phones” capable of voice and text, charged by the call. Emergency calls and text messages only are the protocol for those phones.

Sunscreen Offer Rejected

(Lamoine) - An organization that endeavors to prevent skin cancer offered to provide a sun screen dispenser for the town’s beaches. The Selectmen referred the offer to the Parks Commission for study, questioning what kind of maintenance would be required for such a kiosk.

In July, the Parks Commission discussed and then declined to the offer from Impact Melanoma as most beach users provide their own sunscreen.



International Election Observers
Anastasiya Moisseyva, Dmitriy Moisseyv and Yuliya Moisseyeva study the way voting is conducted in Lamoine. They were in town for the primary election day as guests of Carol Korty on June 12, 2018.

What Are Those Numbers on the Roads?

(Lamoine) - The headline was a most oft asked question at the town hall during late June when circles with numbers on them started appearing on roads in town. Specifically, state highways—Routes 184 and 204. We're pretty sure we've got an answer after speaking to a state highway crew that was working in town after the numbers started appearing.

The Maine Department of Transportation will be doing some extensive drainage work on both state highways, and the numbers designate areas that need some significant attention. The work planning division of MDOT will lay out what drainage work needs to be done. The picture to the left is from Partridge Cove Road where a culvert is apparently in a state of partial collapse. The arrows came from a "private source".

According to the crew, the actual work plan will be carried out in the summer of 2019, with repaving of both roads to be done in 2020. This summer, Mud Creek Road will get a new coat of pavement.



Traffic Light Creates Challenges

(Lamoine) - The wind generated at the intersection of Routes 3 and 204 in Trenton are fairly significant and have taken a toll on the signs that hang on the same pole arms as the traffic signals. Under an agreement with the Maine Department of Transportation, the Town of Lamoine maintains not only the lights, but also the signs. The wind load blew one set of signs 90-degrees, damaging one of the lights, and more importantly pointing the signs in the wrong direction.

The crew from King Electric in Trenton was able to temporarily get the signs back in the right configuration but the town will have to find a longer term solution to properly anchor the signs to the pole arms.

Blunt's Pond Field Day Planned September 8th

By Larissa Thomas, Conservation Commission Chair

(Lamoine) - Everyone is invited to a celebration of Blunts Pond on Saturday, September 8 from 10am–2pm. The Blunts Pond Field Day will include fun and informative activities for the whole family. There will be a guided trail walk, a display on the history of ice harvesting at the pond, a presentation on invasive species, water testing, a scavenger hunt for the kids, refreshments, and more. The event is sponsored by the Lamoine Conservation Commission and the Lamoine Parks Commission.



The crew from Vaughn Thibodeau II put down new layers of pavement on Seal Point Road in mid-June. The same company will be paving Mud Creek Road for the State of Maine during the summer of 2018.

Punching Your Ticket to High School

By Gary McFarland & Gordon Donaldson —Lamoine 150!

(Lamoine)-We take it for granted today that our town will pay to bus our children to school. But this wasn't always so! Right after World War II, Lamoine high schoolers had to buy tickets to ride the bus into Ellsworth High School – 30 cents for a round trip or \$1.50 per week!

Marion McFarland was one of those high schoolers. She's saved one of her bus tickets from 1946 (see picture). She recalls that "about 60 kids" from Lamoine rode the bus to E.H.S. most days. Aubrey Davis punched the tickets (one hole for each day); his pay was a free ride to high school and back.

This practice only lasted a year, as it cost families roughly \$60.00 per year for one student (and no "family plans" were available for multiple students!). Lamoine had been providing bus service for grades K-9 since 1937, according to Marion. That was the year Lamoine began sending sub-primary through grade 3 to the North Lamoine schoolhouse (the present Town Hall), grades 4-5 to the Partridge Cove schoolhouse, and grades 6-9 to the East Lamoine schoolhouse. They traveled in what was fondly called "The Big Green Bus" and in a converted Cushman's Bread truck with benches in it driven by Effie Googins.

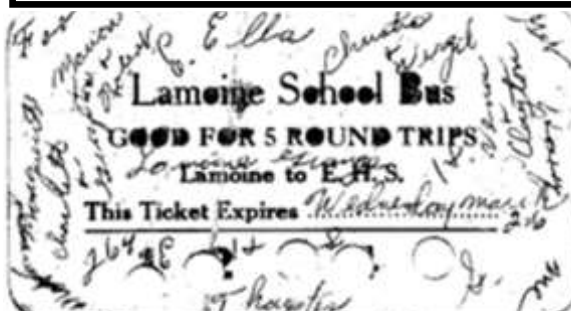
Families wanted increasingly to send their kids on to high school. But getting there wasn't easy. During the war

when gas was scarce and required "ration stamps", Marion reports, "you had to know someone with a car, if you wanted to get to the high school" because the town would not fund a bus! Marion recalls hearing from her father about heated arguments at Town Meeting about the issue. Several Special Town meetings were called in 1944 on the subject as a result of citizen petitions. At the August, 1944, Special Town Meeting, the town voted to fund a new school bus, larger than the "old thirty-eight passenger bus" (The Big Green Bus) and costing more than the \$2,400 already appropriated.

The "ticket plan" may have been dreamed up to sway votes in favor of buying the bigger bus and sending it to E.H.S. in 1945-46. It took only one year of the plan (and a little help from the State of Maine) to convince Lamoine citizens to fully fund a high school bus run. The Maine Legislature passed a law for the State to pick up half the cost of new buses. Back then, fewer than 40% of Mainers completed high school. Thanks to the town's and the State's support, busing to high school helped to raise the high school graduation rate to over 60% by the early 1960s. But that support didn't come without some long debates over kitchen tables and at Town Meetings in Lamoine!



A Maine State Police color guard unit presented the US and Maine State Flags during Lamoine's Memorial Day Ceremony. Local radio station owner Natalie Knox served as the guest speaker as organizer Gary McFarland was suffering from laryngitis. Veteran Tom Brennan placed a wreath made by Hubene Brodie on the Vets' Memorial



GET WET Gets Grant Funding

Beginning in 2006, the Lamoine Conservation Commission (LCC) has carried out the GET WET! (Groundwater Education Through Water Evaluation & Testing) program in the Lamoine Consolidated School in partnership with the University of Maine's Mitchell Center for Environmental and Water Research. Under the program, fifth and sixth grade students have tested home water samples, learning practical science skills and collecting valuable data on the town's water quality. In 2016, the Mitchell Center ended support of the program. The LCC has continued the program independently, supported in part by a generous private donation for necessary equipment. The LCC plans to not only continue the GET WET! program, but to expand it to include on-site testing of water at Blunts Pond. To support the program expansion, the LCC applied for a grant from the Hancock County Fund of the Maine Community Foundation (MCF). The LCC is proud to announce that the MCF recently awarded the full \$1,700 requested for the program. Linda Penkalski, who leads the GET WET! effort for the LCC, would like to thank the MCF for their support. She is already making arrangements for the Blunts Pond testing that will take place early in the next school year. The LCC has recently posted GET WET! data obtained to date on the town's website, and will update it with new results in the future: <http://www.lamoine-me.gov/Town%20Hall/Boards/Conservation%20Commission/2018/GETWET2018.pdf>

Upcoming Community Arts Events

all of which are free -- although donations are always appreciated.

- Saturday, July 21, 7:00 PM a repeat performance of A Bench in the Sun by Ron Clark, performed by LCA folk with set and costumes.
- Saturday, July 28, 7:00 PM a performance of new dance works by two artists from New York, Elizabeth Keen and Meghan Fredericks, originally of Lamoine!
- Tuesday, Aug. 14, 6:30 PM LCA Annual meeting to which everyone's invited. Come hear about plans for the year and opportunities for you to be involved. LCA would love to have new members – all ages, including retirees. Want to try acting, directing, prompting, publicity, sets, costumes? You name it! All talents, interests and participation are cheerfully welcomed by Lamoine Community Arts.
- Saturdays, Aug 18 & 25, 9-11 AM and Sundays, Aug.19 & 26, 4-6 PM, **Auditions** for the fall production with its performances in late Oct and early Nov. Details announced at the Annual Meeting and LCA web site.

Samantha Smith Challenge

By Betta Cahn & Violet Davis

(Lamoine) Fifth and sixth graders from Lamoine School took part of a program called the Samantha Smith Challenge. In this challenge, students look at issues in their community and create a project to encourage residents in their town to help prevent this issue. Lamoine chose environmental and global issues. Since our town just got a new single sort recycling at our transfer station, the Lamoine students encourage more people to take advantage of this and recycle as much as they can so the environment doesn't suffer from our careless litter and trash from huge landfills. The students had Larissa Thomas from the Lamoine Conservation Committee, Stu Marckoon, and ecoMaine as their stakeholders to collect information for their projects. The students presented these projects at Thomas College on June 4, 2018.

Lamoine students made a Public Service Announcement to be shown on the local television channel and a tri-fold about what, how, and most importantly, why, we should recycle. After creating their projects, they traveled to Thomas College in Waterville, Maine to show people their project and view others. The students even got to hear a speech by Kelsey Juliana, a 22 year old American activist who is currently suing the American government for letting the climate change and not doing anything about it.

After that, the students discussed their topic with other kids from different schools, and came up with a challenge for students everywhere: buy food and other products that aren't wrapped in unnecessary plastics. "Everyday items are always wrapped in way more plastic than needed," the students said, "so we're refusing to buy it."

Samantha Smith who was a girl from Manchester, Maine who sent a letter to the Soviet Union in the 1980s asking if they really wanted war. They responded by saying how they did not want war, they wanted peace. So, this girl took note of this and went to the Soviet Union to teach people of all ages how to have peace and how to take care of issues in their communities.

Grange/Theater Getting New Siding

Lamoine Community Arts wishes to publically thank EBS for their generous donation of vinyl siding for Lamoine-Bayside Grange. As many Lamoiners now realize, this 100 year old building now functions as home to both the Grange and Lamoine Community Arts. LCA has assumed responsibility for upgrading the facility as a year round venue for arts activities in our community. We're grateful that EBS has recognized the value of our endeavors. Replacing those old wooden clapboards with new insulation and siding will occur this summer. When you drive by Lamoine Corner, check on the progress being made by LCA volunteers. The building will be in full new attire this coming fall.

Grange Still Serves



(Lamoine) - After a blood drive in early July, our Grange is in the process of planning more events to serve this community. We'd love to have an influx of new (or re-joining) members. This branch started in 1887 and was once the largest in Maine with over 200 members!

The focus in the early years was on farming and establishing a political voice in the country as industry was developing and gaining a hold. The Grange movement was responsible for instituting rural delivery of mail, electrification, and improving rural schools. Its basic premises were – and continue to be – husbandry of the earth, humane treatment of domesticated animals, and equal status for men and women. The organization also served as a social gathering place.

As other institutions and organizations took over these original functions, many Granges across the country have closed. Ellsworth's Bayside Grange closed and joined Lamoine a few years ago. We're now strengthened by our relationship with Lamoine Community Arts but are resolved to initiate and expand activities of our own. Please consider joining us. Questions? You might contact Master, Tom St. Claire, at 667-8411 or find him on the lift replacing those old clapboards.



(left to right): Ray Stephens of Ellsworth EBS (and Lamoine); Tom St. Claire, Grange Master; Kathy McGlinchey, President of LCA; and Carol Korty, Artistic Director of LCA.
Photo by: Georgianna Pulver

July 2018 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4—Closed, Independence Day	5	6	7—Town Office Open 8-12
8	9—7PM Planning Board	10 –6:30 PM Appeals Board	11-7PM Conservation Commission	12—7PM Board of Selectmen	13	14
15	16-6:30 PM Parks Commission	17	18-3:30 PM Lamoine 150	19—6:30 PM Comprehensive Planning	20	21
22	23	24	25	26—6:30 PM Comprehensive Planning	27	28-Town Office Open 8-12
29	30	31	The Administrative Assistant will be on vacation from July 30 to August 4. The town office will be closed at lunch time.			

August 2018 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4—Town Office Open 8-12
5	6—7PM Planning Board	7	8-7PM Conservation Commission	9—7PM Board of Selectmen	10-5PM Fire Department Auction	11
12	13	14	15 —8:00 AM Board of Assessors, 3:30—Lamoine 150	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25 —Town Office Open 8-12
26	27	28	29	30	31-First Half Property taxes due	

September 2018 Lamoine Schedule

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1-Town Office Open 8-12
2	3-Town Office closed—Labor Day	4	5	6-6:30 PM Recreation Cmte.	7	8—Blunt’s Pond Field Day 10am-2pm
9	10-7PM Planning Board	11	12-7PM Conservation Commission	13-7PM Board of Selectmen	14	15
16	17-Zoning Ordinance Hearings	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27-7PM Board of Selectmen	28	29-Town Office Open 8-12
30	September is by Selectman Proclamation “Team Hailey Hugs” Month to promote childhood cancer awareness					

The Lamoine Quarterly
July 2018

- Inside this issue:
- 1

Beach Celebrated
- 1

MacQuinn Decided
- 2

More CEO hours
- 3

Recycling Issues
- 3

Water Tests back
- 4

Ambulance Contract
- 4

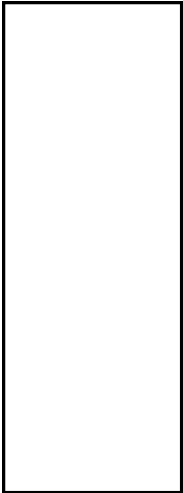
LVFD Auction Date
- 5

Cable Grant Rejected
- 6

Seal Point Road Paved
- 7

Grange Siding

And Much, Much More



Town of Lamoine
606 Douglas Highway
Lamoine, ME 04605